

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 VO-03 SCA-01

SR-02 ORM-03 INSE-00 NIC-01 EB-11 FEA-02 COME-00

INT-08 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 000320

R 081109Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8263

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 1377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RO, IS

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN-ISRAELI RELATIONS

1. DURING PERIODIC CALL BY DCM, ISRAELI AMBASSADOR COHEN SAID THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN PATTERN OF ROMANIAN POLICY TOWARD JEWISH EMIGRATION THAT HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE YOM KIPPUR WAR. THERE IS STILL NO PERMISSION FOR SOVIET JEWS TO TRANSIT ROMANIA AND NO INDICATION THAT IT WILL BE REINSTATED. EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL FROM ROMANIA ITSELF REMAINS AT SAME, RELATIVELY LOW, LEVELS.

2. ON BROADER ISSUES, COHEN NOTED THAT GOR POLICY HAD SHIFTED SOMEWHAT TOWARD ARABS, AS ON ROMANIA'S CALL FOR PALESTINIAN STATE, AND FORTHCOMING OPENING OF PLO OFFICE HERE. MACOVESCU HAD TALKED TO COHEN ABOUT TWO HOURS AFTER CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND MACOVESCU HAD REASSURED COHEN THAT "BASIC BALANCE" OF ROMANIAN'S POSITION REMAINED UNCHANGED ALTHOUGH ONE HAD TO SHIFT BACK AND FORTH FROM TIME TO TIME. MACOVESCU GAVE EVASIVE ANSWERS AT THAT TIME TO POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF PLO OFFICE HERE
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IMPLYING FALSELY THAT THIS WAS NOT IN CARDS. HOWEVER,

ISRAELIS NOT SURPRISED SINCE GOR AMBASSADOR COVACI HAD BEEN MORE FORTHCOMING IN ISRAEL. COHEN SAID HE HAD ALSO SUBSEQUENTLY HAD THREE-HOUR CONVERSATION WITH BODNARAS WHICH HAD PRODUCED NOTHING NEW. BODNARAS, AS WE KNOW FROM OUR OWN CONVERSATIONS WITH VISITING JOINT REPRESENTATIVES HERE, SEEMS TO BE PERSON IN TOP LEADERSHIP WITH GENERAL SUPERVISION OVER JEWISH QUESTIONS (HE HAS ALSO PASSED ON OTHER MINORITY QUESTIONS ON LEVEL ABOVE SECRETARIAT IN PAST).

3. COHEN RECOGNIZED THAT ECONOMIC CONCERNS SUCH AS FEAR OF POSSIBLE BOYCOTT ON EXPORTS TO ARAB WORLD AND NEED FOR CRUDE OIL WERE INFLUENCES ON GOR POLICY AND CONCLUDED THAT WHILE ISRAEL NOT REALLY SATISFIED WITH CURRENT TRENDS IN ITS RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA, SITUATION WAS NOT THAT DIFFERENT FROM ITS RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, UK AND OTHERS AND "AT LEAST I AM STILL HERE".
BARNES

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Message Attributes

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